

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A pedestal defined zero throat write head comprising:

a first pole having a pedestal, the pedestal including a notch, the ~~pedestal~~ notch having a front and a back;

a second pole;

a gap separating the pedestal of the first pole from a portion of the second pole, the gap having a first portion and a second portion, the first portion of the gap being ~~in proximity to~~ between the front of the ~~pedestal~~ notch and the second pole, the second portion of the gap being ~~in proximity to~~ between the back of the ~~pedestal~~ notch and the second pole, the first portion of the gap being thinner than the second portion of the gap;

wherein the second portion of the gap has a top and a bottom, the top of the second portion of the gap being substantially parallel to the bottom of the second portion of the gap.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~The pedestal defined zero throat write head of claim 1~~ A pedestal defined zero throat write head comprising:

a first pole having a pedestal, the pedestal including a notch, the pedestal having a front and a back;

a second pole;

a gap separating the pedestal of the first pole from a portion of the second pole, the gap having a first portion and a second portion, the first portion of the gap being in proximity to the